

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155 Sacramento, California 95814 (916) 657-2666 FAX (916) 654-9780

June 13, 1996

Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Regional Director National Marine Fisheries Service 501 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90802

Subject: Comments on Scoping Report

Dear Ms. Diaz-Soltero:

Thank you for your comment letter on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Scoping Report. We especially appreciate your compliments on the progress made by the Program and your renewed commitment to dedicate staff resources to participate with us.

You noted in your comments that Corps participation in the CALFED Program is very important. We could not agree more and have for some time been actively seeking "official" participation beyond their informal role. Please see attached correspondence on this matter.

We have noted your comments on protection of in-stream flows and water quality when selecting diversion points. This concept will be a foundation of our Phase II alternatives.

We appreciate your official designation of Chris Mobley to serve on our Program Coordination Team. We look forward to his participation in this crucial Program.

Your suggestions on scheduling meetings at least two months in advance is helpful. In fact, we are just completing the seven month schedule of PCT meetings we set last December. We presented our calendar of PCT meetings to the members at our June 5 meeting. In addition, we are working on a master calendar of planned CALFED meetings covering several months and will make that available as soon as it is completed. While I recognize the busy schedules of all the CALFED participants, and try to maintain some schedule regularity, I need to ask your indulgence in our scheduling of Workshop and CALFED meetings and modified timing of some PCT meetings - often with a month or less notice. I am sure that you recognize that a dynamic Program of the type we have undertaken needs some flexibility to respond to rapidly evolving conditions in the ever changing water arena. We will, however, try to be as responsive to your suggestions as is possible.

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation Ms. Hilda Diaz-Soltero June 13, 1996 Page Two

In summary, we continue to feel that the expertise that NMFS brings to our Program is a key element to our success. We look forward to working with you toward the success of the CALFED adventure.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow

Executive Director

cc: Jim Lecky